

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior claims presented in the application.

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently amended) A CHO cell ~~deprived of a portion of the gene encoding for CMP-N-acetylneuraminic acid hydroxylase (CMAH) according to Claim 15 wherein said portion comprises is within encoding for the sequence including and~~ disposed between bases 787 and 1598 of cDNA encoding for CMAH.

19. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 deprived of the portion of the gene encoding for the sequence of CMAH including and disposed between amino-acid 262 and amino-acid 532.

21. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein said portion encodes has the sequence: SEQ ID NO: 2.

22. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18, wherein the NCBI accession number of the cDNA is AJ242835.

23. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 ~~45~~, wherein the portion of the gene encoding for CMAH is absent from both alleles.

24. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 18 45, wherein the portion eliminated has been replaced by at least one DNA sequence encoding for resistance to an antibiotic.
25. (Currently amended) A The CHO cell according to Claim 24, wherein the antibiotic is zeocine.
26. (Currently amended) A method for expressing a heterologous recombinant protein comprising culturing CHO cells according to Claim 18 45, said cells having been transformed to express said heterologous recombinant protein.
27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein said protein is at least one recombinant glycoconjugate.
- 28-40. (Cancelled)